

REMARKS

Claims 1-18 are pending. Claims 9-18 have been added. No new matter has been added.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-3 and 5-8 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Charpentier (U.S. Patent No. 5,291,018). Applicants respectfully assert that Charpentier fails to disclose or suggest the features of claims 1-3 and 5-8, which include at least two of the sensitive areas meshing with one another by interleaving. Charpentier shows the following detector geometries:

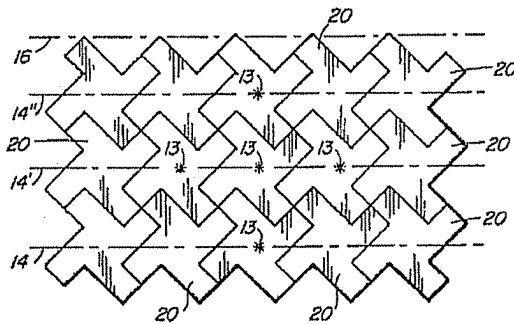


FIG. 5

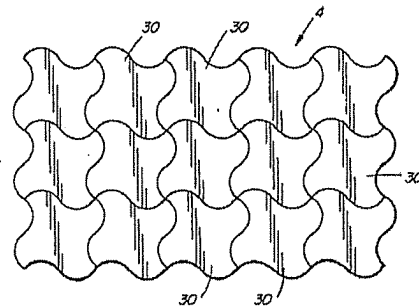
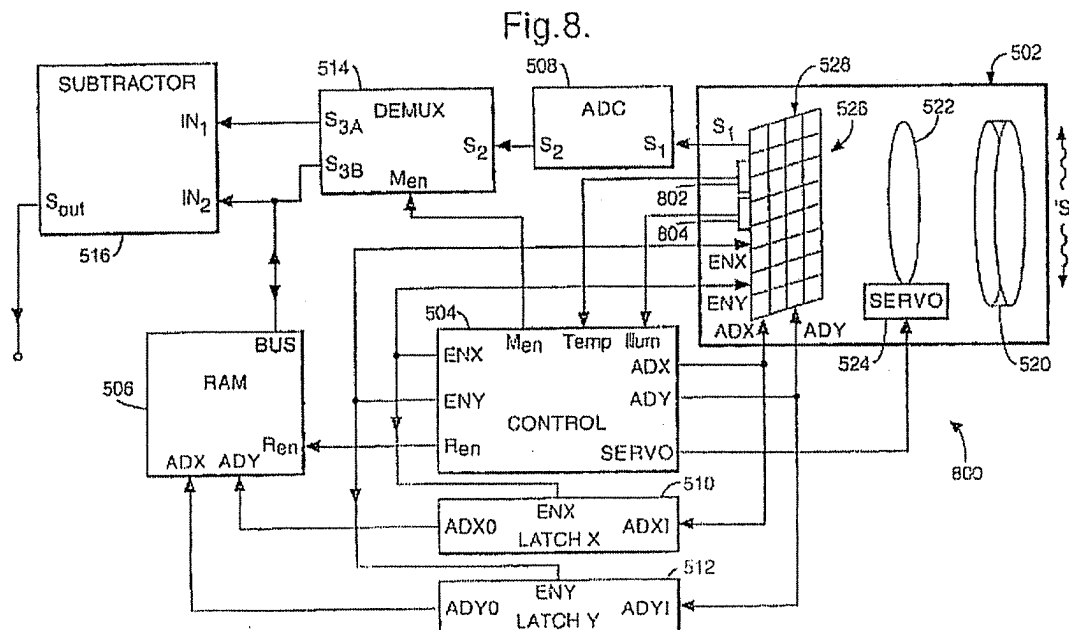


FIG. 8

Charpentier does not disclose or suggest at least two of the sensitive areas meshing with one another by interleaving as in claims 1-3 and 5-8.

The Office Action rejects claim 4 under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being obvious over Charpentier. For the above-described reasons, Charpentier fails to disclose or suggest the features of claim 4, which include at least two of the sensitive areas meshing with one another by interleaving.

The Office Action rejects claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being obvious over Charpentier in view of Marshall (U.S. Patent No. 5,291,018). For the above described reasons, Charpentier fails to disclose or suggest the features of claim 7 which include at least two of the sensitive areas meshing with one another by interleaving. Similarly, Marshall fails to disclose or suggest this feature. Marshall describes a detector with an array of side-by-side photo-detecting elements 528:



As such, the combination of Charpentier and Marshall fails to disclose or suggest the features of claim 7, which include at least two of the sensitive areas meshing with one another by interleaving.

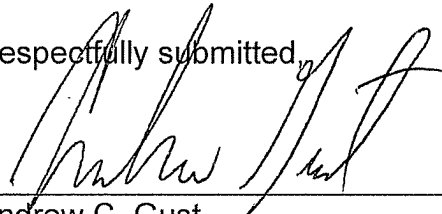
Newly added claims 9-18 depend from claims 1 and 8, respectively. Thus, for the above-described reasons, claims 9-18 are not anticipated nor obvious over Charpentier and Marshall, taken alone or in combination.

Accordingly, for at least the above-described reasons, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested. Favorable consideration and early issuance of the Notice of Allowance are respectfully requested.

Dated: _____

2/2/07

Respectfully submitted,



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